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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

GOOGLE LLC,  
Plaintiff and Counter-defendant,  
v.  
SONOS, INC.,  
Defendant and Counter-claimant.

Case No. 3:20-cv-06754-WHA  
Related to Case No. 3:21-cv-07559-WHA

**SONOS, INC.'S MOTION TO STRIKE  
PORTIONS OF GOOGLE'S EXPERT  
INVALIDITY AND  
NONINFRINGEMENT REPORTS**

Date: March 9, 2023  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Place: Courtroom 12, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Judge: Hon. William Alsup

Complaint Filed: September 28, 2020

**PUBLIC REDACTED VERSION**

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS:

3 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on March 9, 2023 at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may  
4 be heard before the Honorable Judge William Alsup in Courtroom 12 on the 19<sup>th</sup> Floor of the  
5 United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco Courthouse,  
6 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102, Defendant Sonos, Inc. (“Sonos”) will, and  
7 hereby does, move this Court for an Order striking untimely and improper arguments in Plaintiff  
8 Google LLC’s (“Google”) expert reports that were not disclosed in Google’s required disclosures  
9 under the Patent Local Rules or in Google’s responses to Sonos’s interrogatories asking Google  
10 to disclose its non-infringement positions and bases therefor. This motion is based on this Notice  
11 of Motion, the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities and exhibits thereto, all  
12 documents in the Court’s file, and such other written or oral evidence and argument as may be  
13 presented.

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## **STATEMENT OF THE RELIEF REQUESTED**

Pursuant to Patent Local Rules 3-3 and 3-4 and Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26 and 37, Sonos seeks an order striking the following portions of the following expert reports that include previously undisclosed arguments:

1. Dr. Samrat Bhattacharjee’s opening report concerning the invalidity of United States Patents No. 10,779,033 (“the ’033 Patent”) and No. 9,967,615 (“the ’615 Patent”).  
*See* Ex. A<sup>1</sup> (“Bhattacharjee Opening Report”), ¶¶ 218-20, 228, 236, 264, 498-99, 509, 514-15, 524, 533, and 545.
2. Dr. Samrat Bhattacharjee’s rebuttal report and reply report concerning the noninfringement of the ’033 Patent. *See* Ex. B (“Bhattacharjee Rebuttal Report”), ¶¶ 82-86, 95, 106-108, 162-63, 187, 189-93, 195-96, 199, 202-10, 213-15, 222-25, 228, 235, 239-41, 245-46, and 278-86, 288-89, and 295-98; Ex. C (“Bhattacharjee Reply Report”), ¶¶ 45, 79-81, 120, 123-24, 126, 128, 130, 132, and 138.
3. Dr. Dan Schonfeld’s opening report concerning the invalidity of United States Patents No. 10,848,885 (“the ’885 Patent”) and No. 10,469,966 (“the ’966 Patent”). *See* Ex. D (“Schonfeld Opening Report”), pages 548, 557, 565, 572-82, 585, 593, 595-96, 598, 602, 605-14, 621-29, and 642-44 (or, as discussed *infra*, pages 219-645).
4. Dr. Dan Schonfeld’s rebuttal report and reply report concerning the noninfringement of the ’885 Patent and the ’966 Patent. *See* Ex. E (“Schonfeld Rebuttal Report”), ¶¶ 116-18, 178-81; Ex. F (“Schonfeld Reply Report”) ¶¶ 67-68.

## **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

## I. INTRODUCTION

Google's expert reports contain hallmark examples of trial by ambush. Despite sixteen months of fact discovery in this case, Google's invalidity and noninfringement expert reports inject new invalidity and noninfringement arguments and prior art references not previously disclosed. Those arguments and evidence should be struck.

<sup>1</sup> All lettered exhibits cited in this motion are attached to the Declaration of Geoffrey Moss filed in support of this motion and concurrently herewith.

1        Patent Local Rule 3-3 obligated Google to both identify (i) every prior art reference upon  
 2 which it may rely and (ii) “specifically where and how in each alleged item of prior art each  
 3 limitation of each asserted claim is found.” Separately, Sonos served interrogatories asking Google  
 4 to describe its non-infringement positions, its noninfringing alternatives, and the bases for these  
 5 opinions—interrogatories which Google had a responsibility to supplement as its theories shifted,  
 6 as they apparently did. But despite these discovery obligations and procedural rules designed to  
 7 promote disclosure and efficiency, Google waited until serving its expert reports to disclose a broad  
 8 array of new invalidity and noninfringement theories, thus ensuring that Sonos would have no  
 9 opportunity to take discovery on the *factual* bases for those expert opinions.

10        For example, Google’s expert, Dr. Bhattacharjee, opined in his reports that a previously  
 11 undisclosed feature of a prior art system invalidates the ’033 Patent, and also set forth completely  
 12 novel *noninfringement* theories with respect to the ’033 Patent, including alleged noninfringing  
 13 alternatives that Google never before identified. Dr. Schonfeld, another Google expert, included  
 14 in his report a brand new invalidity theory involving product prior art that was previously not  
 15 identified in Google’s invalidity contentions,<sup>2</sup> and similarly set forth previously undisclosed  
 16 noninfringement theories with respect to the ’885 and ’966 Patents. Google simply hid the ball  
 17 until fact discovery had closed, failing to move to amend its invalidity contentions (and show good  
 18 cause) and failing to disclose these noninfringement theories to Sonos in response to Sonos’s  
 19 interrogatories—even in Google’s eleventh-hour responses served in the very last week of fact  
 20 discovery. Nor did Google timely supplement to include these theories under Rule 26(e)(1).  
 21 Allowing Google to hide key arguments and prior art until *after* fact discovery closed would defeat  
 22 the notice function of the Patent Local Rules and Rule 26. As detailed below, Sonos respectfully  
 23 requests that the Court strike these new theories and the corresponding materials referenced in  
 24 Google’s expert reports.

25  
 26  
 27        <sup>2</sup> Patent Local Rule 3-4 obligated Google to “produce or make available for inspection … [a]  
 28 copy or sample of the prior art identified pursuant to Patent L.R. 3-3(a) which does not appear in  
 the file history of the patent(s) at issue.”

## II. BACKGROUND

Google served its Patent Local Rule 3-3 invalidity contentions on December 6, 2021. Sonos identified several systemic deficiencies with Google's contentions and attempted to work with Google to resolve these issues throughout March 2022, until it became clear that Google did not intend to provide cognizable invalidity theories. *See, e.g.*, Ex. G (March 3 and March 11, 2022 emails).

Separately, on August 7, 2021, Sonos served interrogatories asking Google to describe its non-infringement positions and its noninfringing alternatives. *See* Ex. H at 16 (Interrogatory No. 12), 19-20 (Interrogatory No. 18). But Google waited until the final week of fact discovery—in November 2022—to serve its final supplemental responses to those interrogatories. Specifically, on November 21, 2022, Google served its eighth supplemental response, responding *inter alia* to Sonos’s Interrogatory No. 18 asking Google to describe its noninfringing alternatives. *See* Ex. I. And on November 29, 2022, Google served its ninth supplemental response, responding to Sonos’s Interrogatory No. 12 asking Google to describe its non-infringement positions and the bases therefor. *See* Ex. J.

Only one day later—on November 30, 2022, the last day of fact discovery—Google served the Bhattacharjee and Schonfeld opening expert reports, both addressing invalidity and alleged non-infringing alternatives, *inter alia*. On January 13, 2023, Google served the Bhattacharjee and Schonfeld rebuttal reports, focusing as relevant here on non-infringement and alleged non-infringing alternatives. And on January 23, 2023, Google served each expert’s reply report.

But despite having served eleventh-hour supplemental interrogatory responses in the 9 days preceding service of the opening reports, Google’s expert reports—as detailed below—innovated once again. Along with their accompanying expert declarations and cited materials, the reports included multiple new invalidity theories, new prior art references, new noninfringement theories, and new purported noninfringing alternatives that had never been disclosed as required in Google’s contentions or as part of fact discovery.

1       **III. LEGAL STANDARD**

2           Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B) requires a witness who is “retained or specially  
 3 employed to provide expert testimony in the case” to provide a written report containing, among  
 4 other things, “(i) a complete statement of all opinions the witness will express and the basis and  
 5 reasons for them,” and “(ii) the facts or data considered by the witness in forming them.” Fed. R.  
 6 Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B).

7           Any information contained in an expert report that is responsive to discovery requests must  
 8 be disclosed in a timely manner to be used at trial. Rule 26(e)(1) imposes an obligation on a party  
 9 “who has responded to an interrogatory” to “supplement or correct its disclosure or response (A)  
 10 in a timely manner if the party learns that in some material respect the disclosure or response is  
 11 incomplete or incorrect, and if the additional or corrective information has not otherwise been made  
 12 known to the other parties during the discovery process or in writing.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(e)(1).  
 13 Rule 37 “forbid[s] the use at trial of any information that is not properly disclosed.” *Goodman v.*  
 14 *Staples The Office Superstore, LLC*, 644 F.3d 817, 827 (9th Cir. 2011). Rule 37(c)(1) thus requires  
 15 exclusion unless the offending party carries its burden “to demonstrate that the failure to comply  
 16 with Rule 26(a) is substantially justified or harmless.” *Torres v. City of Los Angeles*, 548 F.3d  
 17 1197, 1213 (9th Cir. 2008). For instance, where an expert fails to provide a theory in the report, a  
 18 court may “preclud[e] him from testifying on this issue.” *Nationwide Transp. Fin. v. Cass Info.*  
 19 *Sys., Inc.*, 523 F.3d 1051, 1062 (9th Cir. 2008); *see also Apple, Inc. v. Samsung Elecs. Co.*, No. 11-  
 20 cv-01846-LHK, 2012 WL 3155574, at \*5 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 2, 2012) (striking portions of Samsung’s  
 21 expert reports that included invalidity and non-infringement theories that were not timely provided  
 22 to Apple in response to contention interrogatories).

23           Information in an expert report that was not disclosed in invalidity contentions may not be  
 24 used at trial either. Patent Local Rule 3-3(c) required Google to serve invalidity contentions  
 25 “identifying specifically where and how in each alleged item of prior art each limitation of each  
 26 asserted claim is found.” In turn, Patent Local Rule 3-4(b) required Google to “produce or make  
 27 available for inspection … [a] copy or sample of the prior art identified pursuant to Patent L.R. 3-  
 28 3(a) which does not appear in the file history of the patent(s) at issue.” These disclosure

1 requirements exist “to further the goal of full and timely discovery and provide all parties with  
 2 adequate notice and information with which to litigate their cases.” *Fresenius Med. Care Holdings,*  
 3 *Inc. v. Baxter Int’l, Inc.*, No. C03-1431 (SBA), 2006 WL 1329997, at \*4 (N.D. Cal. May 15, 2006);  
 4 *see also O2 Micro Int’l Ltd. v. Monolithic Power Sys., Inc.*, 467 F.3d 1355, 1366 (Fed. Cir. 2006)  
 5 (“The rules … seek to balance the right to develop new information in discovery with the need for  
 6 certainty as to the legal theories.”). “Any invalidity theories not disclosed pursuant to Local Rule  
 7 3-3 are barred, accordingly, from presentation at trial (whether through expert opinion testimony  
 8 or otherwise).” *MediaTek Inc. v. Freescale Semiconductor, Inc.*, No. 11-cv-5341 (YGR), 2014 WL  
 9 690161, at \*1-2 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 21, 2014) (citing *Avago Techs. Gen. IP PTE Ltd. v. Elan*  
 10 *Microelectronics Corp.*, No. C04-05385 (JW), 2007 WL 2103896 (N.D. Cal. July 20, 2007), *aff’d*,  
 11 2007 WL 2433386, at \*1 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 22, 2007)). Courts can choose to strike new theories and  
 12 references under Patent Local Rule 3-3 when a party fails to meet its disclosure obligations, even  
 13 absent a showing of prejudice caused by nondisclosure. *Finjan, Inc. v. Sophos, Inc.*, No. 14-cv-  
 14 01197 (WHO), 2016 WL 2988834, at \*9 (N.D. Cal. May 24, 2016); *Largan Precision Co. v. Genius*  
 15 *Elec. Optical Co.*, No. 13-cv-02502 (JD), 2014 WL 6882275, at \*3-5 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 5, 2014).  
 16 Likewise, material allegedly relevant to a party’s prior art that is not produced pursuant to Local  
 17 Rule 3-4 will be precluded. *See, e.g., IXYS Corp. v Adv. Power Tech. Inc.*, No. C 02-03942 MHP,  
 18 2004 WL 1368860, at \*2-3 (N.D. Cal. Jun. 16, 2004).

19 Determining the proper scope of an expert’s report allows the Court to determine both the  
 20 record on summary judgment and what testimony a jury will be allowed to hear at trial. Under this  
 21 Court’s *Guidelines for Trial and Final Pretrial Conference in Civil Jury Cases before the*  
 22 *Honorable William Alsup*, the Court warns that it “regularly enforces” the procedural rules  
 23 requiring expert witnesses to limit their direct examination testimony to the scope of their expert  
 24 reports. *See Guidelines ¶ 15.* “[A]t trial, the direct testimony of experts will be limited to the  
 25 matters disclosed in their reports.” *Id.* And “[m]aterial in a ‘reply’ report must ordinarily be  
 26 presented in a party’s rebuttal (or sur-rebuttal) case *after* the other side’s expert has appeared and  
 27 testified.” *Id.*

28

1      **IV. ARGUMENT**

2      Google's experts, Dr. Bhattacharjee and Dr. Schonfeld, improperly advance new invalidity  
3      theories, new noninfringement theories, and new noninfringing alternative theories that should be  
4      stricken from their expert reports for the reasons outlined below.

5      **A. Google Improperly Introduced New Invalidity Theories Via Expert Report.**

6      Both of Google's experts, Dr. Bhattacharjee and Dr. Schonfeld, improperly introduced  
7      previously undisclosed invalidity theories in their expert reports.

8      **1. Dr. Bhattacharjee Improperly Introduced A New Anticipation Theory.**

9      In his opening and reply expert reports, Dr. Bhattacharjee improperly asserted for the first  
10     time that the [REDACTED] feature of the Tungsten/Nexus Q system anticipated Claim 1 of the  
11     '033 Patent. Specifically, Dr. Bhattacharjee contends that [REDACTED]  
12     [REDACTED]  
13     [REDACTED]  
14     [REDACTED] Ex. A, ¶ 218

15     (emphasis added). Dr. Bhattacharjee argues that [REDACTED]  
16     [REDACTED]  
17     [REDACTED]  
18     [REDACTED]  
19     [REDACTED] *Id.* ¶ 220. The [REDACTED] feature appears to be the entire basis of Dr.  
20     Bhattacharjee's argument that [REDACTED]  
21     [REDACTED] *See id.* ¶¶ 218-220; *see also* ¶¶ 228, 236, 264, 498-99, 509,  
22     514-15, 524, 533, 545; Ex. C ¶¶ 45, 120, 123-24, 126, 128, 130, 132, 138.

23      This theory, and this feature, appear nowhere in Google's invalidity contentions. While  
24      Google did disclose the Tungsten/Nexus Q *system* as alleged prior art in its invalidity contentions,  
25      the theory on which Dr. Bhattacharjee is now relying based on the [REDACTED] feature is brand  
26      new. *Compare* Ex. K ('033 patent, Tungsten claim chart) (nowhere referencing [REDACTED]  
27      feature). In other words, Google never previously disclosed this theory or provided any notice that  
28      it would rely on the [REDACTED] feature in its invalidity case. Now, Dr. Bhattacharjee

1 completely changes Google's theory by pointing to the never-before-identified [REDACTED]  
 2 feature, claiming that it is the "remote playback queue" required by this claim element, which is  
 3 referred to as "Limitation 1.4."<sup>3</sup>

4 In his reply report, Dr. Bhattacharjee disclosed *yet another* new invalidity theory in arguing  
 5 that the YouTube Remote System anticipated Claim 1 of the '033 Patent. Ex. C ¶¶ 79-81; *see* Ex.  
 6 L ('033 patent, YouTube Remote System claim chart). Dr. Bhattacharjee newly contends that the  
 7 YouTube Remote System allowed for [REDACTED]  
 8 [REDACTED]  
 9 [REDACTED]  
 10 Ex. C ¶ 79 [REDACTED]  
 11 [REDACTED].

12 In contrast, while the YouTube Remote System was disclosed in Google's invalidity contentions  
 13 as alleged prior art, Google's invalidity contentions identified as the [REDACTED]  
 14 [REDACTED]  
 15 [REDACTED]  
 16 [REDACTED]

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26 <sup>3</sup> As set forth in Dr. Bhattacharjee's reports, Limitation 1.4 corresponds to "operating in a first  
 27 mode in which the computing device is configured for playback of a remote playback queue  
 28 provided by a cloud-based computing system associated with a cloud-based media service." Google referred to this limitation as Limitation 1a in its contentions. *See* Ex. L ('033 patent, YouTube Remote System claim chart).

1  
 2 Ex. L at 5-6 (annotated). While Google's contentions had no description for the above image, Dr.  
 3 Bhattacharjee newly annotated that image in his reply report, contending that the image [REDACTED]  
 4 [REDACTED]  
 5 [REDACTED]  
 6 [REDACTED] Ex. C ¶ 79. This theory is not present in Google's invalidity contentions and has never  
 7 been previously disclosed.

8 Google's experts are barred from raising invalidity arguments and prior art that were not  
 9 previously disclosed in its invalidity contentions, even if such arguments are based on the same  
 10 reference(s) that Google identified in its contentions. *MediaTek*, 2014 WL 690161, at \*1-2. Courts  
 11 are clear that alleged infringers cannot introduce new teachings of a previously disclosed reference  
 12 to create new invalidity theories. *See Largan*, 2014 WL 6882275, at \*5-6. Instead, the invalidity  
 13 contentions must disclose the "specific [teaching of the prior art] with respect to this specific  
 14 claim," as well as the infringer's "theory for why the reference discloses this element." *Id.* For  
 15 example, the court in *Largan* struck, under Patent Local Rule 3-3, all portions of the defendant's  
 16 expert report that used new teachings of a reference to satisfy any claim element. *Id.* Similar to  
 17 the defendant in *Largan*, Google is attempting to use *different* teachings from the Tungsten/Nexus  
 18 Q system and Youtube Remote System to fill gaps in its invalidity contentions with respect to the  
 19 '033 patent. *Id.* By not even attempting to amend its invalidity contentions to disclose these new  
 20 theories, Google attempts to completely side-step the "good cause" requirement necessary for any  
 21 such amendment. The good cause requirement is particularly problematic for Google for these new  
 22 theories because they relate to *Google's own* alleged prior art. Google did not present the [REDACTED]  
 23 [REDACTED] feature of the Tungsten System and the alleged [REDACTED]  
 24 [REDACTED] in its invalidity contentions, and it should not be permitted to do so now.  
 25 On this basis, the Court should strike paragraphs 218-220, 228, 236, 264, 498-99, 509, 514-15, 524,  
 26 533, and 545 of Dr. Bhattacharjee's opening report and paragraphs 45, 79-81, 120, 123-24, 126,  
 27 128, 130, 132, and 138 of Dr. Bhattacharjee's reply report.

28

**2. Dr. Schonfeld's Previously Undisclosed Prior Art References Must Be Stricken**

3 Dr. Schonfeld utilizes, as a primary reference, the Bose Lifestyle 50 System, which he calls  
4 the “Bose Lifestyle” system. However, in addition to relying on the Bose Lifestyle 50 System  
5 itself, Dr. Schonfeld also relies on a number of other *different* Bose products including the “Bose  
6 Link communication protocol” and the “Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers.” *See* Ex. D  
7 (Dr. Schonfeld Opening Expert Report)<sup>4</sup> at pp. 548, 557, 565, 572-82, 585, 593, 595, 596, 598, 602,  
8 605-614, 621-629, 642-644; Ex. F (Dr. Schonfeld Reply Expert Report) ¶¶ 67-68. But these Bose  
9 *products* were never disclosed in Google’s invalidity contentions. *Compare* Exs. M, N (nowhere  
10 mentioning “Bose Link communication protocol” or “Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo  
11 Amplifiers”). Indeed, Dr. Schonfeld’s primary reference—the Bose Lifestyle 50 System—does  
12 not include those products. *See, e.g.*, Ex. M at 72; Ex. O at 7 (BOSE\_SUB-0000001) (identifying  
13 devices and components of system, but not identifying Bose Link communication protocol, or  
14 Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers). Similarly, the documents, *see* Exs. P, Q  
15 (BOSE\_SUB-0000450, BOSE\_SUB-0000594-601), that Dr. Schonfeld relies on to show that the  
16 “Bose Link communication protocol” and the “Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers” are  
17 products in his purported “Bose Lifestyle” system do not mention that these products were part of  
18 the previously disclosed Bose Lifestyle 50 System at all.<sup>5</sup> The Owner’s Guide for the Bose  
19 Lifestyle 50 System doesn’t mention these previously undisclosed products at all either. *See* Ex. O  
20 at 7 (BOSE\_SUB-0000001).

21 In fact, it would be impossible for Dr. Schonfeld show that the “Bose Link communication  
22 protocol” and the “Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers” were part of the previously  
23 disclosed Bose Lifestyle 50 system. The Bose Lifestyle 50 system was likely discontinued before  
24 the Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers were even released, given that the earliest dated

<sup>4</sup> Because Dr. Schonfeld's opening report uses inconsistent paragraph numbering, we cite to the page rather than the paragraph.

<sup>28</sup> <sup>5</sup> This document does mention “Lifestyle,” but that is a term Bose has used for years in naming various devices and systems. See, e.g., Ex. T ¶ 374.

1 Owner's Guide for the Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers, *see* Ex. R (BOSE\_SUB-  
 2 0000361-448), is 2004, and the Bose Lifestyle 50 system was discontinued in 2003. See Ex. S  
 3 (([https://www.bose.com/en\\_us/support/products/bose\\_home\\_theater\\_support/bose\\_5 Speaker\\_ho me\\_theater\\_support/ls50.html](https://www.bose.com/en_us/support/products/bose_home_theater_support/bose_5 Speaker_ho me_theater_support/ls50.html)); *see also* Ex. T, Almeroth Rebuttal Report ¶¶ 334-389 (explaining  
 4 why the Bose Link communication protocol, or Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers do not  
 5 appear to even be compatible with the Bose Lifestyle 50 System). At bottom, there is little  
 6 discernable connection between the previously disclosed Bose Lifestyle 50 System, and the newly  
 7 disclosed communication protocol and amplifiers (other than a common manufacturer).

8       A party cannot rely on a prior art reference that it did not disclose in its invalidity  
 9 contentions. *ASUS Computer Int'l v. Round Rock Research, LLC*, No. 12-cv-02099 JST, 2014  
 10 WL 1463609, at \*8-9 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 11, 2014); *Largan*, 2014 WL 6882275, at \*6. While new  
 11 references may be used by an expert as general background material, such references cannot be  
 12 relied on “as prior art that allegedly renders the asserted claims of the ... patent[] obvious.”  
 13 *Verinata Health, Inc. v. Sequenom, Inc.*, No. C12-00865 (SI), 2014 WL 4100638, at \*5 (N.D. Cal.  
 14 Aug. 20, 2014); *Largan*, 2014 WL 6882275, at \*6 (finding that a reference is not general  
 15 background if it is used “in support of a particular claim element being anticipated or obvious”).

16       Google had an obligation to disclose all of the products it intended to rely on in its  
 17 invalidity contentions rather than allow Dr. Schonfeld to use the “Bose Lifestyle” brand name to  
 18 create a previously undisclosed “Bose Lifestyle” system with previously undisclosed products.  
 19 *Largan*, 2014 WL 6882275 at \*4 (“Our Local Rules are designed precisely to eliminate the  
 20 gamesmanship of hints in favor of open disclosure.”). Because these products were not and  
 21 cannot be part of the Bose Lifestyle 50 system presented in Google’s invalidity contentions, the  
 22 Court should strike all of Google’s “Bose Lifestyle” system arguments related to the “Bose Link  
 23 communication protocol” and the “Lifestyle SA-2 and SA-3 Stereo Amplifiers.” For all of these  
 24 reasons, the Court should strike pages 548, 557, 565, 572-82, 585, 593, 595-96, 598, 602, 605-  
 25 614, 621-29, and 642-44 of Dr. Schonfeld’s opening report and paragraphs 67-68 of Dr.  
 26  
 27  
 28

1 Schonfeld's reply report.<sup>6</sup>

2       **B. Google Improperly Introduced New Noninfringement Theories Via Expert**  
 3       **Report.**

4       Google was obligated to inform Sonos of Google's noninfringement positions prior to the  
 5 close of fact discovery in its responses to Sonos's contention interrogatories. Google's disclosure  
 6 of new noninfringement theories in its expert reports does not constitute proper supplementation  
 7 under Rule 26(e)(1). *See Asia Vital Components Co. v. Asetek Danmark A/S*, 377 F. Supp. 3d  
 8 990, 1003 (N.D. Cal. 2019) ("A rule that an accused infringer may wait until its expert rebuttal  
 9 report to set forth theories of non-infringement for the first time would forfeit the benefits of  
 10 contention interrogatories."); *Apple*, 2012 WL 3155574, at \*5 (amendment of contention  
 11 interrogatories after the close of fact discovery but before the close of expert discovery  
 12 nevertheless violated Rule 26(e)(1) because it deprived Apple "the opportunity to conduct  
 13 additional fact discovery regarding Samsung's new theories"). Accordingly, under Rule 37(c)(1),  
 14 the portions of Google's expert reports containing newly disclosed noninfringement theories must  
 15 be stricken.

16       **1. Dr. Bhattacharjee's Previously Undisclosed Noninfringement Theories**  
 17       **Must Be Stricken**

18       Dr. Bhattacharjee's rebuttal report improperly introduces *five* new noninfringement  
 19 theories that were not disclosed during fact discovery. They should be stricken.

20       First, Dr. Bhattacharjee contends for the first time that limitation 1.7 of the '033 Patent is  
 21 not infringed because [REDACTED]  
 22 [REDACTED]. *See* Ex. B ¶¶ 82-86,  
 23 213-15, 245-46. During discovery, Sonos asked Google for its noninfringement theories and the  
 24 bases therefor. But Google's responses—even those served on November 29, 2022—never

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 27       <sup>6</sup> Separately, unless the Court on reconsideration reverses its grant of summary judgment of  
 28 validity of the '885 Patent, *see* Dkt. 382, the Court should strike Dr. Schonfeld's over 400 pages  
 of report concerning "invalidity of the '885 Patent." *See* Ex. D (Schonfeld opening) at ii-vi (table  
 of contents showing '885 invalidity section from pages 219-645 of the report).

1 disclosed this theory. *See generally* Ex. J (Google's Ninth Suppl. Rog Responses).

2 Second, Dr. Bhattacharjee contends for the first time that limitation 1.7 of the '033 Patent  
 3 is not infringed because [REDACTED]  
 4 [REDACTED]  
 5 [REDACTED].

6 *See* Ex. B ¶¶ 106-108, 222-225, 296-297. Once again, Google's responses never disclosed this  
 7 theory. *See generally* Ex. J (Google's Ninth Suppl. Rog Responses).

8 Third, Dr. Bhattacharjee contends for the first time that limitations 1.4 and 1.7 of the '033  
 9 Patent are not infringed because [REDACTED]  
 10 [REDACTED]  
 11 [REDACTED] *See* Ex. B ¶¶ 162-63, 202-203. Relatedly, Dr.

12 Bhattacharjee further argues [REDACTED]  
 13 [REDACTED]. *See* Ex. B ¶¶ 199, 203-210. Once  
 14 again, Google's responses never disclosed these theories. *See generally* Ex. J (Google's Ninth  
 15 Suppl. Rog Responses); *see also*, e.g., *id.* at 30-31 (discussing [REDACTED] in connection with  
 16 related '615 Patent but making no mention of this theory).<sup>7</sup>

17 Fourth, Dr. Bhattacharjee contends for the first time that [REDACTED]  
 18 [REDACTED] as claimed by claim 1 of the '033 Patent. *See* Ex. B ¶¶ 187, 189-93, 228,  
 19 235. Once again, Google's responses never disclosed this theory. *See generally* Ex. J (Google's  
 20 Ninth Suppl. Rog Responses).

21 Fifth, Dr. Bhattacharjee contends for the first time that [REDACTED]  
 22 [REDACTED]  
 23 [REDACTED]. *See* Ex. B ¶¶ 95, 195-96, 239-41. Once again, Google's responses never  
 24 disclosed this theory. *See generally* Ex. J (Google's Ninth Suppl. Rog Responses).

25 By disclosing these theories for the first time in expert reports, Google effectively locked  
 26

27 <sup>7</sup> To the extent that the Court does not strike this, and Google's other undisclosed theories, Sonos  
 28 intends to move to amend its infringement contentions to set forth doctrine of equivalents  
 positions.

1 Sonos's experts into the factual record as of the time fact discovery closed, preventing them from  
 2 "test[ing] the factual basis for the newly amended contentions by conducting additional  
 3 discovery." *Apple*, 2012 WL 3155574, at \*5; *see also Heidelberg Harris, Inc. v. Mitsubishi*  
 4 *Heavy Indus., Ltd*, No. 95 C 0673, 1996 WL 680243, at \*8 (N.D. Ill. Nov. 21, 1996) ("[i]f a party  
 5 is allowed to withhold the supplementation of its discovery responses until after fact discovery is  
 6 closed, the purpose of the Rule is effectively frustrated because the opposing party is denied the  
 7 opportunity to conduct discovery on the supplemented responses"). Rule 26 was "designed to  
 8 require parties to crystallize their theories of the case early in the litigation and to adhere to those  
 9 theories once they have been disclosed"—not defer the disclosure of those theories. *MLC Intell.*  
 10 *Prop., LLC v. Micron Tech., Inc.*, No. 14-cv-03657-SI, 2018 WL 6046465, at \*2 (N.D. Cal. Nov.  
 11 19, 2018) (quoting *O2 Micro*, 467 F.3d at 1366 n.12).

12 Google had an obligation to supplement its responses to Sonos's contention  
 13 interrogatories. This would have provided Sonos the means by which to test these theories during  
 14 fact discovery. Google failed to do so. Accordingly, the Court should strike paragraphs 82-86,  
 15 95, 106-108, 162-63, 187, 189-93, 195-96, 199, 202-210, 213-15, 222-25, 228, 235, 239-41, 245-  
 16 46, and 296-297 of Dr. Bhattacharjee's rebuttal report.

17 **2. Dr. Schonfeld's Previously Undisclosed Noninfringement Theories**  
 18 **Must Be Stricken**

19 In his rebuttal report, Dr. Schonfeld argued for the first time that the Accused Google  
 20 Controllers [REDACTED] and therefore do not infringe asserted  
 21 *independent claims 1 and 9* of the '966 patent. *See* Ex. E ¶¶ 116-118. Google never  
 22 substantively disclosed this theory, not even in its supplemental interrogatory responses sent in  
 23 the final hours of fact discovery. *See* Ex. J at 63. Indeed, in those responses, Google only argues  
 24 [REDACTED] with respect to dependent claim 3, from which asserted claim 4 depends—citing  
 25 no claim language from claims 1 or 9. *See id.* While Google's *initial* response, *see id.* at 9-21,  
 26 identifies dozens of claim limitations that Google believed were not met—including the relevant  
 27 limitations of claims 1 and 9—the response does so without any indication of the *basis* for  
 28 Google's noninfringement position, or any indication of what is missing from those elements.

1 The first time that Google provided *any* specific noninfringement argument regarding [REDACTED]  
 2 [REDACTED] came on November 29, 2022, and was limited to claim language from dependent claim  
 3. *See id.* at 63-64.

4 Rule 37(c)(1) provides that a party’s failure to supplement answers to interrogatories in a  
 5 timely fashion is grounds for exclusion of the undisclosed information. The “district court has  
 6 discretion, when circumstances warrant, to exclude evidence not produced in compliance with a  
 7 proper discovery request.” *Woods v. DeAngelo Marine Exhaust, Inc.*, 692 F.3d 1272, 1279 (Fed.  
 8 Cir. 2012) (affirming the district court’s grant of a motion to strike prior art drawings that were  
 9 not disclosed in response to interrogatory and not adequately supplemented). Sonos’s contention  
 10 interrogatory seeking noninfringement theories specifically asked Google to “set forth … the  
 11 complete legal and factual basis for any assertion by Google that the Accused Instrumentalities  
 12 have not infringed each such claim” on a claim-by-claim and element-by-element basis. *See* Ex. J  
 13 at 7. Because Google failed to disclose this theory at any point during fact discovery, Sonos was  
 14 prevented from seeking any discovery on the alleged factual bases for this new position. Here,  
 15 Google’s failure to disclose its noninfringement position with respect to two *independent* claims  
 16 that do not, by definition, depend on dependent claim 3, is grounds for exclusion of this theory  
 17 under Rule 37.

18 Accordingly, the Court should strike paragraphs 116-118 of Dr. Schonfeld’s rebuttal  
 19 report.

20 **C. Google Improperly Introduced New Noninfringing Alternatives Via Expert**  
 21 **Report.**

22 Google was also obligated to inform Sonos of Google’s noninfringing alternatives prior  
 23 to the close of fact discovery in its responses to Sonos’s interrogatory requesting that information  
 24 and in its response under Patent L.R. 3-9 to Sonos’s damages contentions pursuant to Patent L.R.  
 25 3-8. Google’s disclosure of new noninfringing alternatives in its expert reports does not  
 26 constitute proper supplementation under Rule 26(e)(1) or this District’s Patent Local Rules, and,  
 27 under Rule 37(c)(1), the portions of Google’s expert reports containing those newly disclosed  
 28 noninfringing alternative theories must be stricken. *See Apple*, 2012 WL 3155574, at \*5.

1                   **1.        Dr. Bhattacharjee's Previously Undisclosed Noninfringement**  
 2                   **Alternatives Must Be Stricken**

3                   In his rebuttal report, Dr. Bhattacharjee contended that a non-infringing alternative existed  
 4                   at the time of infringement, consisting of [REDACTED]

5                   [REDACTED] *See Ex. B ¶¶ 288-89, 295-98.* But Dr. Bhattacharjee's articulation of this  
 6                   alleged NIA differs significantly from his explanation in his patent showdown report, which  
 7                   Google's interrogatory response has made clear is controlling. *See Ex. I at 13-14 ("*  
 8                   [REDACTED] are discussed in further detail in the opening and rebuttal [showdown] reports of  
 9                   Dr. Bhattacharjee, which are incorporated herein by reference.").

10                   Cf. Ex. U (Dr. Bhattacharjee  
 11                   Opening Showdown Report), ¶¶ 586-92 (describing original theory); Ex. V (Rebuttal Showdown  
 12                   Report), ¶¶ 361-64. For example, in his January 2023 rebuttal report, Dr. Bhattacharjee says that  
 13                   [REDACTED]  
 14                   [REDACTED],  
 15                   Ex. B ¶ 298. But that's completely inconsistent with Google's theory disclosed during discovery  
 16                   [REDACTED]  
 17                   [REDACTED]  
 18                   [REDACTED]. *See Ex. U (Opening Showdown Report) ¶ 592; Ex.*  
 19                   *V (Rebuttal Showdown Report), ¶¶ 361-64; see also generally Ex. W ¶¶ 259-77 (delineating*  
 20                   *Google's shifting theory with respect to this alleged NIA); see also Ex. X (Supp. Responsive*  
 21                   *Damages Contentions) at 36-38 (failing to disclose [REDACTED] theory).*

22                   Separately, Google asserted in its interrogatory response that what it labels as NIA #4 [REDACTED]

23                   [REDACTED]  
 24                   [REDACTED]—involves [REDACTED]  
 25                   [REDACTED]

27                   <sup>8</sup> At the time this interrogatory response was served, "the opening and rebuttal reports of Dr.  
 28                   Bhattacharjee" could only have referred to patent showdown reports, served earlier in 2022,  
 because the instant, non-showdown opening and rebuttal reports had not yet been served.

1 [REDACTED] See Ex. I at 14. However, in his rebuttal report,  
 2 Dr. Bhattacharjee stated that what he labels “Alternative #3”—which appears to correspond to  
 3 Google’s NIA #4—would itself contain *three additional* alternatives to infringement: namely  
 4 that, [REDACTED]  
 5 [REDACTED]  
 6 [REDACTED]  
 7 [REDACTED]  
 8 [REDACTED]  
 9 [REDACTED]  
 10 [REDACTED]  
 11 [REDACTED] See Ex. B ¶ 280 (emphases added). Google did not disclose any of *those* alternatives  
 12 previously. Cf. Ex. A ¶ 764, Ex. I at 14.

13 These portions of Google’s expert reports discussing noninfringing alternatives that  
 14 Google failed to disclose in response to Sonos’s interrogatories should be stricken. Google’s  
 15 failure to timely disclose this information about noninfringing alternatives prevented Sonos from  
 16 conducting fact discovery on these alleged NIAs and hampered Sonos’s ability to address them in  
 17 Sonos’s opening expert report. Rule 37 requires their “automatic and mandatory” exclusion. See  
 18 *Droplets, Inc. v. Yahoo! Inc.*, No. 12-cv-03733-JST, 2021 WL 9038509, at \*9 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 27,  
 19 2021) (striking expert’s opinions regarding non-infringing alternatives where defendant’s  
 20 disclosed noninfringing alternatives lacked particular claim limitations and plaintiff was deprived  
 21 of the opportunity to meaningfully respond); *see also Godo Kaisha IP Bridge 1 v. Broadcom Ltd.*,  
 22 No. 16-cv-134-JRG, 2017 WL 2869344, at \*2-3 (E.D. Tex. April 19, 2017) (“IP Bridge”)  
 23 (striking expert’s opinions regarding non-infringing alternatives that were not previously  
 24 disclosed in response to interrogatories and disclosed for the first time in an expert report).

25 Accordingly, the Court should strike paragraphs 278-86, 288-89, and 295-98 of Dr.  
 26 Bhattacharjee’s rebuttal report.

27  
 28

**2. Dr. Schonfeld's Previously Undisclosed Noninfringement Alternative Must Be Stricken**

3 In his rebuttal report, Dr. Schonfeld for the first time identified a new alleged  
4 noninfringing alternative, called “No Identification of Groups as Zone Scenes.” *See* Ex. E  
5 ¶¶ 178-81. As Dr. Schonfeld acknowledges, he did not disclose this alleged NIA in his opening  
6 report. *See id.* ¶ 178. But that’s just the tip of the iceberg. Google never disclosed this alleged  
7 NIA in the course of fact discovery—not even in its supplemental responses served in the final  
8 days of fact discovery or its responsive damages contentions under Patent L.R. 3-9 that Google  
9 supplemented mere hours before fact discovery closed. *See, e.g.*, Ex. I at 6-7 (requesting the  
10 details of any actual or potential alleged NIA), 8-12 (identifying three different alleged NIAs, but  
11 making no mention of “No Identification of Groups as Zone Scenes”); *see also* Ex. X (Supp.  
12 Responsive Damages Contentions), at 36-38 (failing to disclose theory).

13 According to Dr. Schonfeld, the new alleged NIA would require only “minor changes” to  
14 Google’s “grouping feature to avoid meeting the ‘zone scene’ element.” Ex. E ¶ 178. But Dr.  
15 Schonfeld offers no explanation as why such an allegedly minimal NIA, involving only “minor  
16 changes,” could not have been disclosed during fact discovery. Moreover, as Google’s expert  
17 witness, Dr. Schonfeld had all the information necessary to assess Google’s own accused  
18 products and alleged non-infringing alternatives months before his submission of his rebuttal  
19 report. *See Droplets, Inc.*, 2021 WL 9038509, at \*9 (striking noninfringing alternatives from  
20 expert report where defendant’s expert generated his opinions long before the expert report was  
21 due but those opinions were not disclosed in response to plaintiff’s interrogatories). This alleged  
22 noninfringing alternative should have been disclosed in response to Sonos’s interrogatory, and  
23 Google’s failure to disclose warrants striking the portions of Google’s expert report discussing it  
24 from these reports under Rule 37.

25        Accordingly, the Court should strike paragraphs 178-181 of Dr. Schonfeld's rebuttal  
26 report.

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28 For all of the foregoing reasons, Google's disclosure of new theories for the first time

1 during expert discovery was neither justified nor harmless. Google hampered Sonos's ability to  
 2 address Google's new theories in Sonos's opening expert reports in the same level of detail with  
 3 which Sonos addressed Google's disclosed theories. And Google prevented Sonos from taking  
 4 the fact discovery that it would have taken—and which it did indeed take, as to Google's  
 5 *disclosed* theories—prejudice that cannot be cured as this case heads rapidly towards a trial date  
 6 that will not, and should not, be moved. The Court should strike the portions of Google's expert  
 7 reports containing these undisclosed theories.

8 **V. CONCLUSION**

9 Accordingly, Sonos respectfully requests that this Court strike (1) paragraphs 218-220,  
 10 228, 236, 264, 498-99, 509, 514-15, 524, 533, and 545 from Dr. Bhattacharjee's Opening Report,  
 11 (2) paragraphs 82-86, 95, 106-108, 162-63, 187, 189-93, 195-96, 199, 202-10, 213-15, 222-25,  
 12 228, 235, 239-41, 245-46, and 278-86, 288-89, and 295-98 from Dr. Bhattacharjee's Rebuttal  
 13 Report, (3) paragraphs 45, 79-81, 120, 123-24, 126, 128, 130, 132, and 138 from Dr.  
 14 Bhattacharjee's Reply Report, (4) pages<sup>9</sup> 548, 557, 565, 572-82, 585, 593, 595-96, 598, 602, 605-  
 15 14, 621-29, and 642-44 from Dr. Schonfeld's Opening Report (or, as discussed *supra* note 6,  
 16 pages 219-645), (5) paragraphs 116-18, 178-81 from Dr. Schonfeld's Rebuttal Report, and (6)  
 17 paragraphs 67-68 from Dr. Schonfeld's Reply Report.

18

19 Dated: January 27, 2023

By: /s/ Clement S. Roberts

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<sup>9</sup> See *supra*, note 4.